

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TEL AV 00411 101711Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----107068 101712Z /43

O 101640Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0481
INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEL AVIV 0411

EXDIS

FRO ASSISTANT SECRETARY ATHERTON FROM LEWIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV, IS, EG, US
SUBJECT: SECRETARY'S ATTENDANCE AT JERUSALEM POLITICAL COMMITTEE

REF: A) STATE 05046; B) CAIRO 00892

1. WITH DAYAN IN ITALY UNTIL THURSDAY NIGHT (JANUARY 12),
I TALKED TO EVRON THIS AFTERNOON ABOUT THE SECRETARY'S
HOPE THAT
COMMITTEE COULD CONVENE IMMEDIATELY IN CLOSED SESSION.
EVRON HAD ALREADY RECEIVED REPORT FROM DINITZ ON
DISUCSSION OF THIS POINT WITH SECRETARY IN WASHINGTON.

2. EVRON SAID THAT DINITZ HAD BEEN GIVEN INSTRUCTIONS
TO CONBEY TO DEPARTMENT ISRAELI POSITION. ISRAELIS
BELIEVE IT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE TO HAVE VERY BRIEF
OPENING STATEMENTS AFTER THE PHOTOGRAPHS ARE TAKEN
WITH THE PRESS PRESENT, LIMITED TO FIVE MINUTES OR SO.
THEN PRESS WOULD LEAVE ROOM AND MEETING WOULD GO
IMMEDIATELY INTO CLOSED WORKING SESSION. HE SAID THAT
THEY FEEL THIS IS MINIMUM REQUIREMENT FOR PROTOCOL,
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BUT SHOULD NOT DEVIATE SUBSTANTIALLY FROM SECRETARY'S
PREFERENCES. HE SUGGESTED WE CONVEY THIS VIEW TO
EGYPTIANS AS WELL.

3. SUBSEQUENT TO THIS CONVERSATION I RECEIVED REF B
AND LEARNED THE EGYPTIANS HAVE AGREED TO SECRETARY'S PROPOSAL.
I IMMEDIATELY PHONED EVRON BACK AND ASKED HIM IF IN

LIGHT OF THIS INFORMATION WHETHER ISRAELI WOULD NOT RECONSIDER. HE SAID THAT MEANWHILE HE HAD BEEN ON PHONE TO DAYAN IN ITALY, AND THAT DAYAN INDEED FELT STRONGLY THAT BRIEF OPENING STATEMENTS WERE DESIRABLE. HOWEVER, I PERSUADED EVRON TO GET IN TOUCH WITH DAYAN AGAIN AND SEE IF THE WOULD RECONSIDER HIS POSITION IN LIGHT OF THE EGYPTIAN AGREEMENT TO FOREGO SUCH STATEMENTS. HE WILL BE IN TOUCH WITH ME AGAIN AFTER HE TALKS TO DAYAN.

4. NEW SUBJECT. SECRETARY'S MEETING WITH BEGIN AND DAYAN IS ARRANGED FOR SUNDAY EVENING, TENTATIVE TIME 1930 HOURS. WE CAN READJUST TIME WHEN WE HAVE FIRM INFORMATION ABOUT ETA FOR AIRCRAFT.

5. WHOLE DELEGATION IS NOW SCHEDULED TO BE HOUSED IN HILTON. THIS WILL PERMIT YOU AND YOUR COLLEAGUES TO REMAIN IN PLACE WITHOUT CONFUSION FOLLOWING THE SECRETARY'S DEPARTURE.
LEWIS

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